

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An image capture apparatus, comprising:
 - a camera capturing image data of an object;
 - an illumination illuminating the object using a plurality of wavelengths;
 - a storage unit storing a recorded image of an object;
 - a comparison-determination unit comparing the recorded image with captured image data of the object and determining whether or not the recorded image and the captured image data match each other; and
 - a material determination unit determining the material of the object from the image data of the object which has been obtained using the plurality of wavelengths[[],] ; and
 - an image buffer storing the captured image,
wherein the camera captures the image data of the object placed above the camera and the illumination, and
wherein the image data is captured first for material
determination, the image data only required for the material
determination is stored in the image buffer, the image data for

comparison with the recorded image is captured second, thereby
setting memory requirements for the image buffer smaller than an
amount of data which can be stored in the image buffer.

2. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said illumination has a plurality of light sources having
intensity peaks of different wavelengths, switches these light
sources, and obtains an image of the object to be captured using
the plurality of wavelengths.

3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
said illumination has a light source emitting light of a
continuous range of wavelengths, and when the camera captures an
image, an image of a specific wavelength is obtained using a
filter.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further
comprising:

a brightness correction unit correcting a difference in
brightness of illumination of light between different
wavelengths on the object to be captured.

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein
said brightness correction unit comprises a brightness
correction table storing a correction coefficient for correction
of brightness.

6. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 4, further
comprising:

a distance sensor measuring a distance to the object to be
captured, wherein

said brightness correction unit comprises a brightness
correction table storing a correction coefficient for correction
of brightness for each distance to the object to be captured.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
material determination is performed on the object to be
captured using a part of an image of the object to be captured.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
as a result of the material determination, information
about a capturing operation in which a different material is
detected is stored when the material of the object to be

captured is determined to be different from a predetermined material.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein an image obtained using one wavelength emitted by the illumination is compared with the recorded image.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a monitor unit indicating to a user a state in which the object to be captured is held.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein image data are obtained using different wavelengths between an even-numbered row and an odd-numbered row of a scanning line of an image obtained by said camera.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a brightness correction unit having a brightness correction table storing a correction coefficient for correction of brightness to correct a difference in brightness of light between different wavelengths emitted to the object to be captured.

14. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said brightness correction table is generated by comparing data obtained when said image capture apparatus performs a first operation with recorded data using the obtained data when similarity is within a predetermined range.

15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a standard reflecting object is captured together with the object to be captured to correct a difference in brightness of the object to be captured and illuminated by light having different wavelengths.

16. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a network communications function.

17. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein

The recorded image and wavelength characteristic of the recorded image are recorded in the apparatus connected over a network, or the recorded image and the wavelength characteristic of the recorded image are updated at an instruction from the apparatus.

18. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein in network communications, encrypted data are communicated.

19. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an external storage medium access unit reading data from an external storage medium, wherein the recorded image and wavelength characteristic of the recorded image are recorded and updated from the external storage medium.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a peripheral image capture camera capturing a state of a surrounding area when the object to be captured is taken.